ROY THOMAS, MIKE HARRIS & TONY DE ZUNIGA
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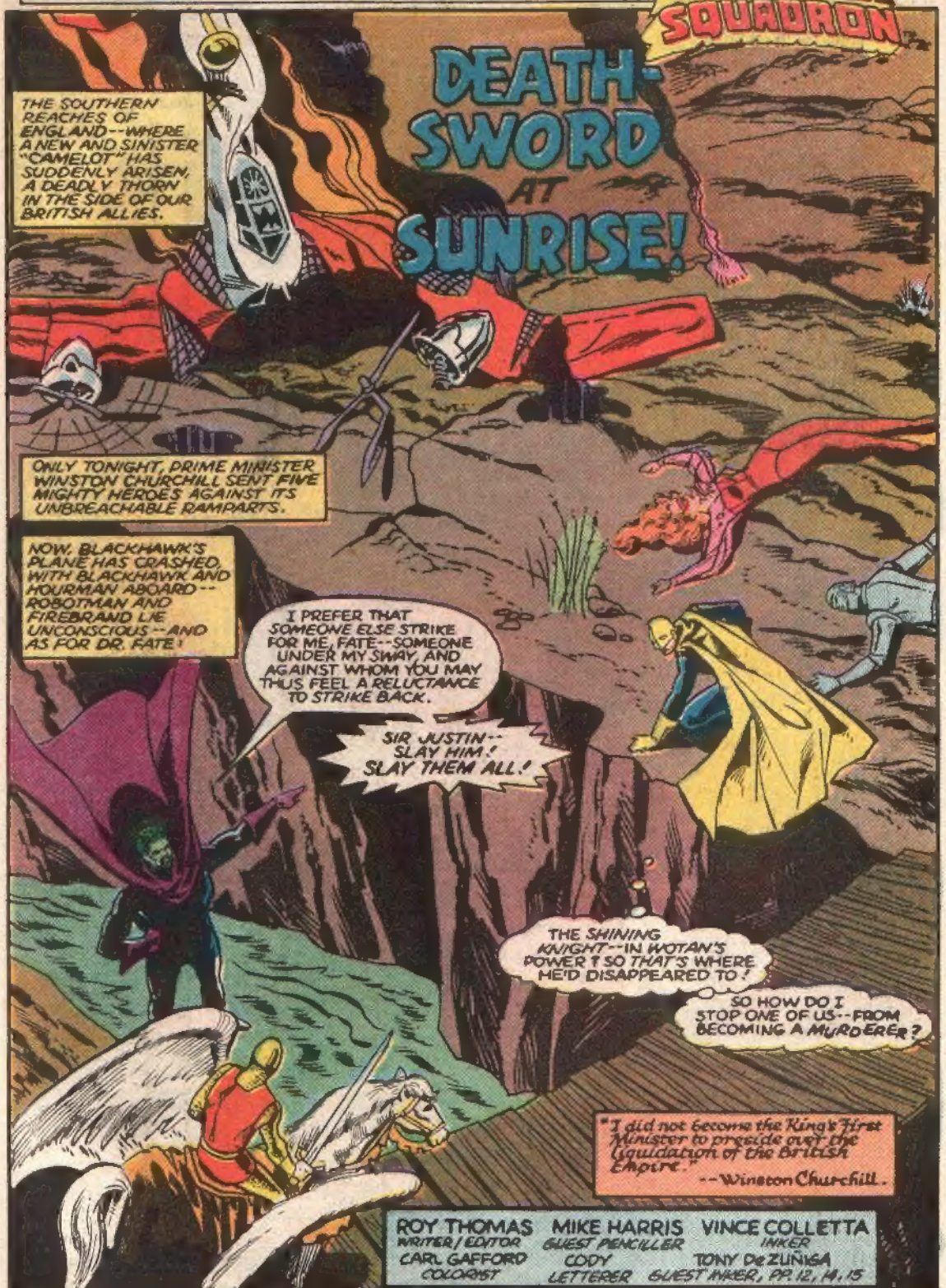
ALL-STAR SQUADRON
EXTRA! FOR THE FIRST TIME IN NEARLY 50 YEARS-- DR. OCCULT!
THE WRATH OF WOTAN!
1935
50
DC
1985

1942—a world at war! And against the forces of Axis darkness, the mightiest heroes of Earth-Two have banded together, under direct orders of the President, as the

ALL-STAR SQUADRON



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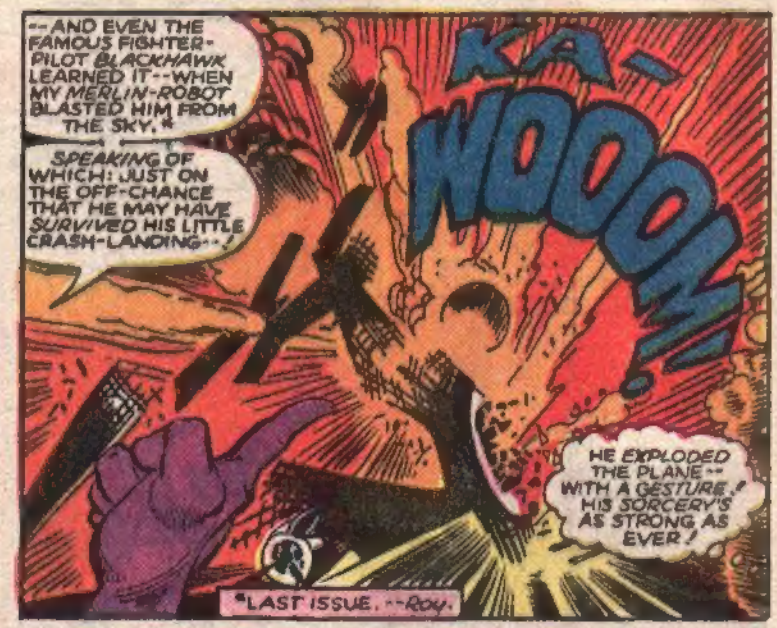
SLAY HIM, SIRE? BUT-- HE IS UNARMED!
TOUCHING, ISN'T IT? HE WHO CAME TO ENGLAND TO BE BRITAIN'S DEFENDER NOW SERVES ME--EVEN IF HE IS STILL A BIT SQUEAMISH ABOUT BEING USED AS MY EXECUTIONER.
BUT, HE'LL LEARN, SOON ENOUGH.
LEARN WHAT? THAT HE'S NOW WORKING FOR ONE OF HITLER'S LACKEYS?

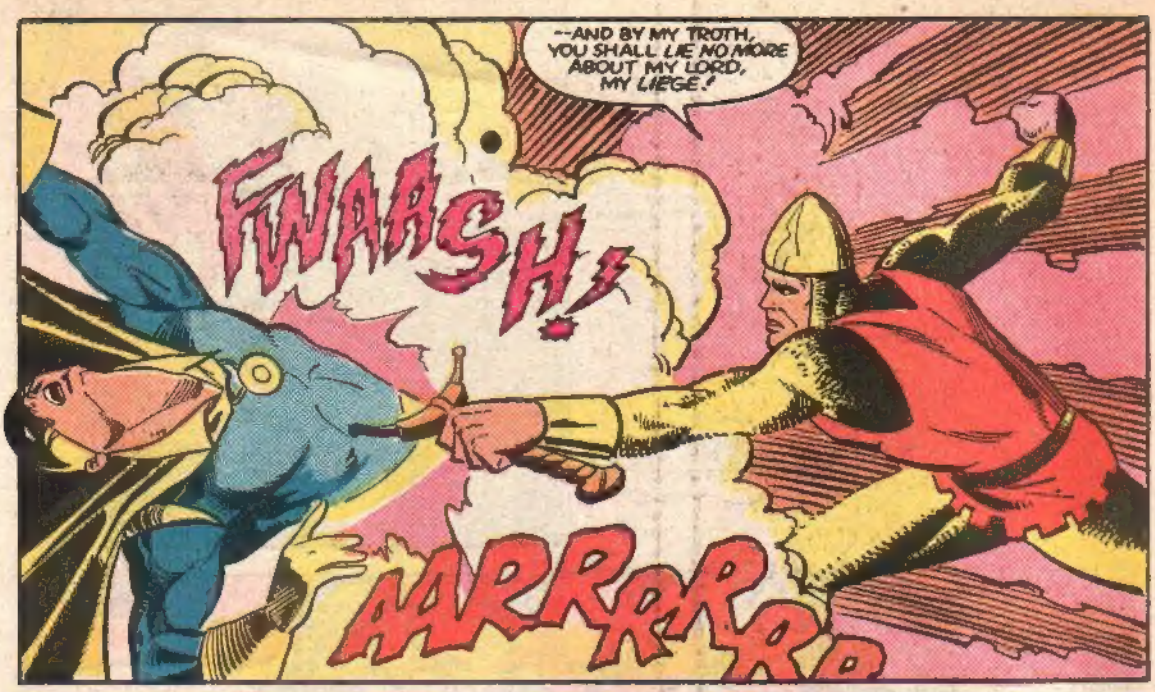
WOTAN IS NO MAN'S LACKEY--NOT EVEN HITLER'S! BUT OUR PURPOSES ARE THE SAME--TO RULE--AND BEING WITH HIM SEEMS INFINITELY PREFERABLE, AT PRESENT, TO BEING AGAINST HIM.
THE POLES AND THE FRENCH LEARNED THAT LESSON--THE BRITISH ARE LEARNING IT--

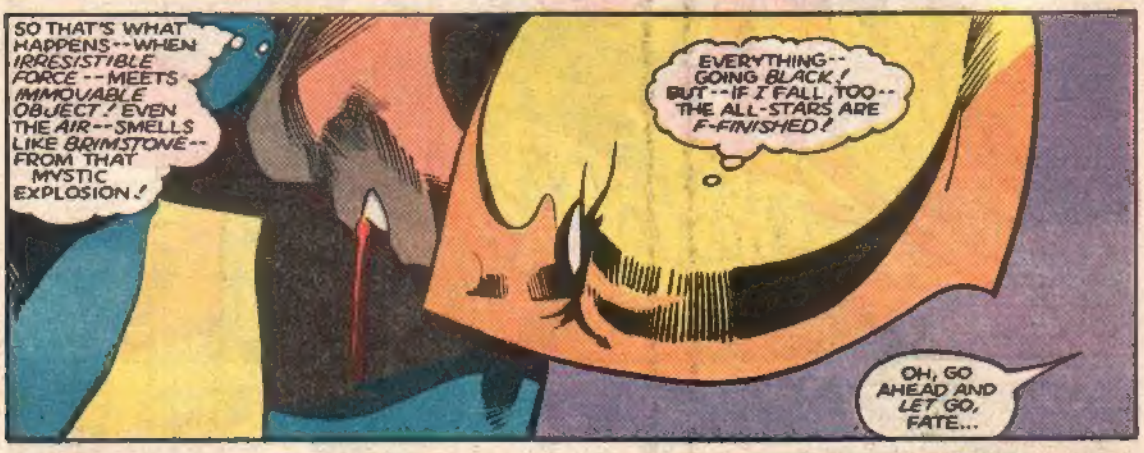

--AND EVEN THE FAMOUS FIGHTER-PILOT BLACKHAWK LEARNED IT--WHEN MY MERLIN-ROBOT BLASTED HIM FROM THE SKY.*
SPEAKING OF WHICH: JUST ON THE OFF-CHANCE THAT HE MAY HAVE SURVIVED HIS LITTLE CRASH-LANDING--!
KA-WOOOM
HE EXPLODED THE PLANE--WITH A GESTURE! HIS SORCERY'S AS STRONG AS EVER!
*LAST ISSUE.--Roy.

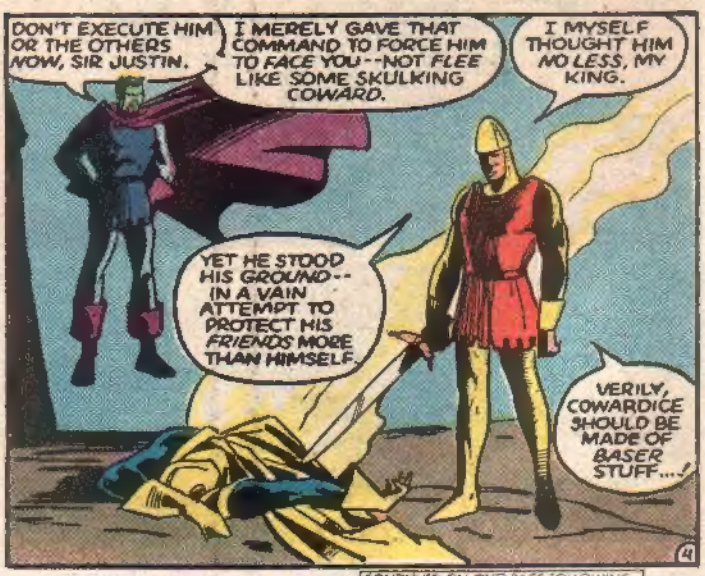
LEAVING THIS MAN OF DESTINY PRECISELY WHERE?
HE COMMANDS BOTH SCIENCE AND MAGIC--AND MOST OF MY MYSTIC POWERS ARE LONG-GONE WITH THE PROVERBIAL WIND.
GOT TO CALL HIS BLUFF, THOUGH--OR HE'LL TURN THAT FATAL FINGER ON BRANDY AND ROBOTMAN!

GETTING YOUR BACK UP, EH?
SIR JUSTIN! I COMMAND YOU--KILL HIM!
AYE, MY LIEGE AND LORD! IF KING ARTHUR INSISTS--THE SHINING KNIGHT MUST NEEDS OBEY!
HUH? HE THINKS WOTAN IS ARTHUR PENDRAGON? NO WONDER HE'S WILLING TO--

BUT, CAN'T LET THAT WORRY ME RIGHT NOW.
BY MY HALIDOM!
YECHH! CAN'T SAY I CARE MUCH FOR SLUGGING A HORSE -- BUT MAYBE THIS WILL NEUTRALIZE THE KNIGHT, WITHOUT MY HAVING TO HURT HIM.
SHOULDN'T BE TOO HARD FOR A GUY WITH MY STRENGTH.
WINGED VICTORY!
FIGHT ON WITHOUT ME, FAITHFUL STEED!
HUH? WHAT'S HE JABBERING ABOUT? DOES HE REALLY THINK THAT MOBILGAS REJECT IS GOING TO--
UNNH!
THWONK!
GOOD LORD-- THAT HURT!
SHOULD'VE REALIZED--JUSTIN'S HORSE WOULD BE EVERY BIT AS AMAZING--AS EVERYTHING ELSE ABOUT HIM.
WHUMP!
I FEEL LIKE I'VE BEEN KICKED BY SUPERMAN--NOT A WINGED HORSE OUT OF AN ENGLISH FAIRYTALE!
AND HERE COMES THE SHINING KNIGHT, OUT FOR BLOOD-- MY BLOOD!
SIR JUSTIN--STOP! THAT'S NOT KING ARTHUR--JUST MY OLD ENEMY WOTAN! WE'VE GOT TO--
YE BE A LIAR AS WELL AS A VILE KNAVE--







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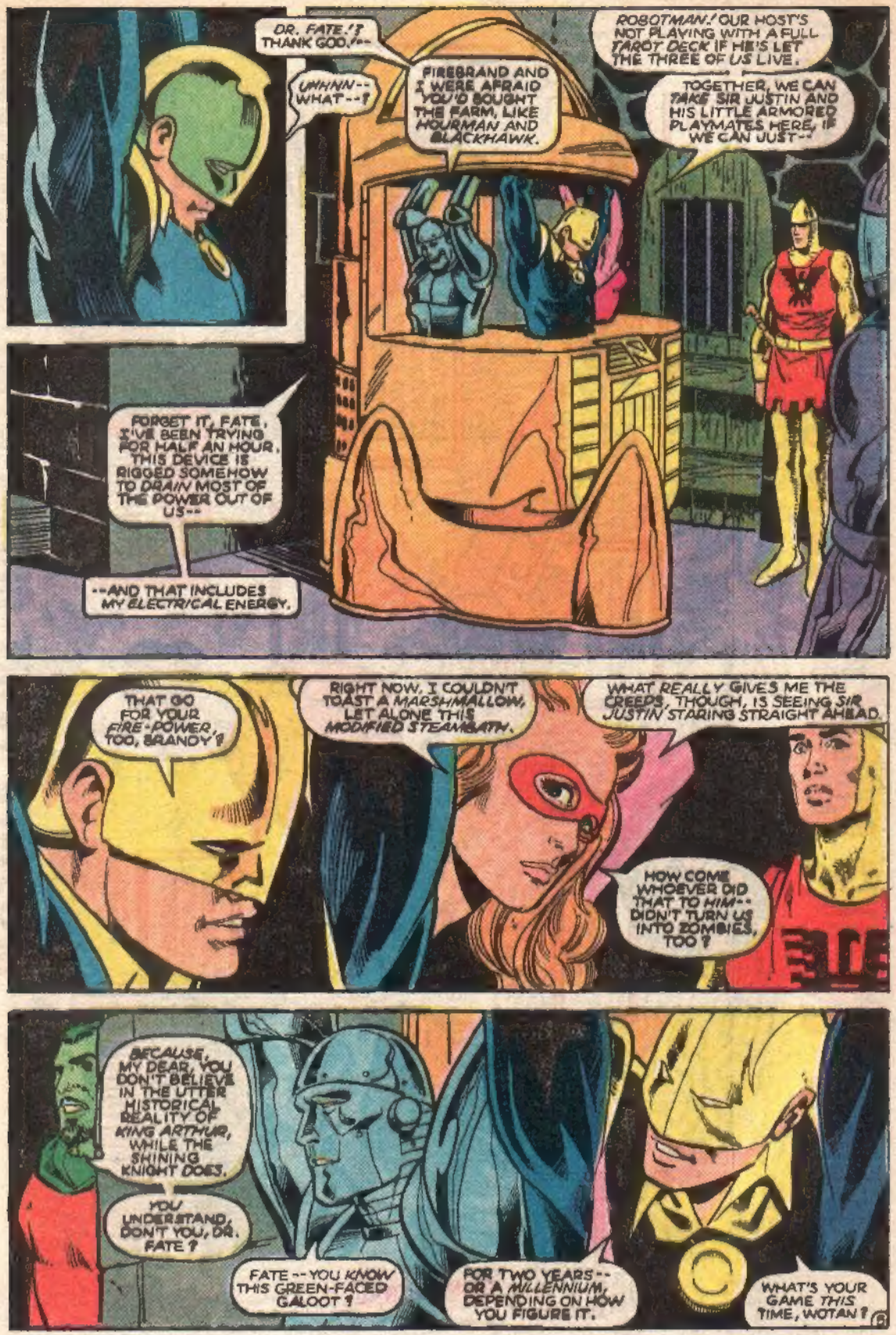
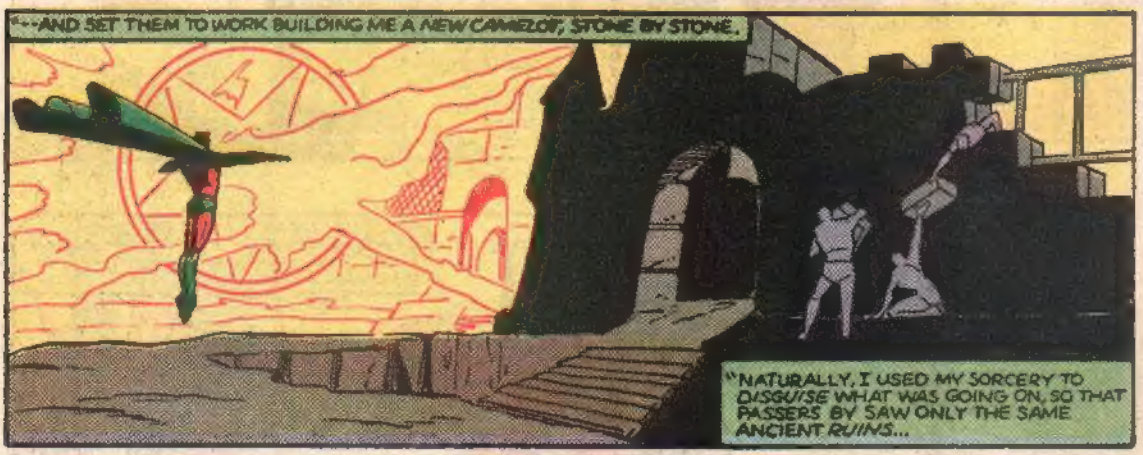
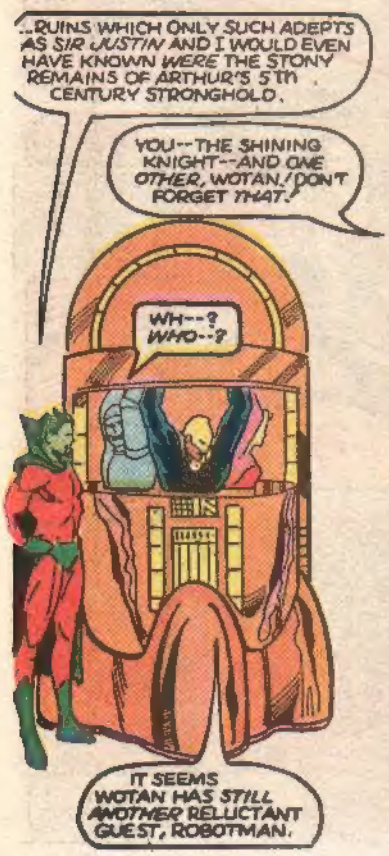

DR. FATE!? THANK GOD!--
UHHNN-- WHAT--?
FIREBRAND AND I WERE AFRAID YOU'D SOUGHT THE FARM, LIKE HOURMAN AND BLACKHAWK.
ROBOTMAN! OUR HOST'S NOT PLAYING WITH A FULL TAROT DECK IF HE'S LET THE THREE OF US LIVE.
TOGETHER, WE CAN TAKE SIR JUSTIN AND HIS LITTLE ARMORED PLAYMATES HERE, IF WE CAN JUST--
FORGET IT, FATE, I'VE BEEN TRYING FOR HALF AN HOUR. THIS DEVICE IS RIGGED SOMEHOW TO DRAIN MOST OF THE POWER OUT OF US--
--AND THAT INCLUDES MY ELECTRICAL ENERGY.
THAT GO FOR YOUR FIRE-POWER, TOO, BRANDY?
RIGHT NOW, I COULDN'T TOAST A MARSHMALLOW, LET ALONE THIS MODIFIED STEAMBATH.
WHAT REALLY GIVES ME THE CREEPS, THOUGH, IS SEEING SIR JUSTIN STARING STRAIGHT AHEAD.
HOW COME WHOEVER DID THAT TO HIM-- DIDN'T TURN US INTO ZOMBIES, TOO?
BECAUSE, MY DEAR, YOU DON'T BELIEVE IN THE UTTER HISTORICAL REALITY OF KING ARTHUR, WHILE THE SHINING KNIGHT DOES.
YOU UNDERSTAND, DON'T YOU, DR. FATE?
FATE -- YOU KNOW THIS GREEN-FACED GALOOT?
FOR TWO YEARS -- OR A MILLENNIUM, DEPENDING ON HOW YOU FIGURE IT.
WHAT'S YOUR GAME THIS TIME, WOTAN?

WOTAN ! THAT NAME SOUNDS FAMILIAR SOMEHOW--AND NOT JUST BECAUSE I KNOW YOU SWIPED IT FROM A TEUTONIC MYTH!
YOUR METAL-ENCASED HUMAN BRAIN PLAYS TRICKS ON YOU, ROBOTMAN. IF WE HAD MET BEFORE, I WOULD REMEMBER IT.*
* ACTUALLY, THEY HAVE, AND WOTAN DOESN'T--FOR REASONS MADE PLAIN IN ISSUE #3. --Roy.
AH, BUT YOU AND I HAVE CROSSED SWORDS BEFORE, HAVE WE NOT, DR. FATE--AYE, EVEN SINCE YOU TOOK ON THE FRAIL, FLESHLY ENVELOPE WHICH IS KENT NELSON.
SKIP THE AULD-LANG-SYNE, WIZARD.
TO REPEAT: WHAT'RE YOU UP TO THIS TIME AROUND?
I THOUGHT YOU'D NEVER ASK.
"WE'VE NOT MET, HAVE WE, SINCE LAST YEAR WHEN I WAS TEMPORARILY ALLIED WITH IAN KARKULL, THE HUMAN SHADOW?
"YOU RESCUED YOUR LOVELY PARAMOUR, INZA CRAMER--AND THOUGHT KARKULL AND MYSELF DESTROYED.*
"TOO BAD FOR YOU WE WERE ONLY HURLED INTO A NETHER DIMENSION, INSTEAD.
*MORE FUN COMICS #70, 1941. --R.
"KARKULL WENT HIS WAY... I WENT MINE.
"MINE, WHEN I FINALLY FOUND MY PATH OUT OF LIMBO, WAS BY USING A MAGICAL SPELL TO HOOK ONE OF THE MANY 'PLACES OF POWER' ON THE CORPOREAL EARTH--AND LETTING IT VIRTUALLY REEL ME TO ITSELF!
"THE PLACE OF POWER WAS--THE SITE OF THE ORIGINAL CAMELOT!

"I TOOK IT AS A SIGN.
"AS YOU KNOW, FATE, I HAVE ALWAYS COMBINED SCIENCE AND MAGIC IN MY ATTEMPTS TO GAIN WORLDLY POWER--FOR WHAT IS MAGIC BUT PERVERTED SCIENCE, AND VICE VERSA?
"SOON, UTILIZING NEW KNOWLEDGE I HAD GAINED IN THE NETHERWORLD, I HAD CONJURED UP MINDLESS DRONE-BEINGS FROM WORLDS BEYOND THE PALE--

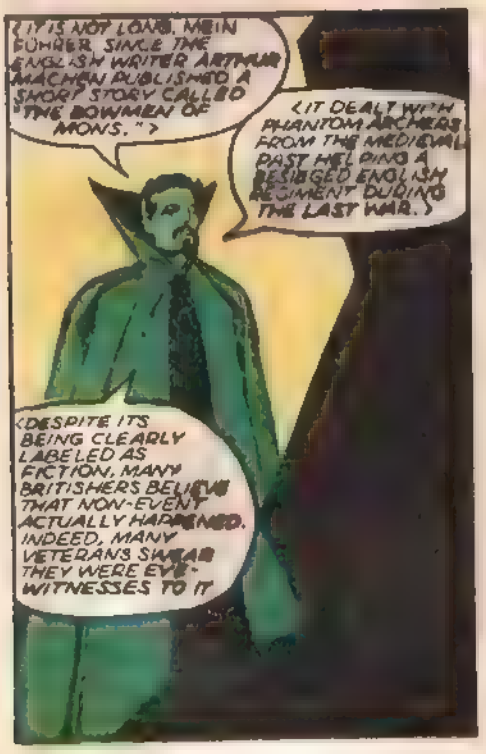

"--AND SET THEM TO WORK BUILDING ME A NEW CAMELOT, STONE BY STONE.
"NATURALLY, I USED MY SORCERY TO DISGUISE WHAT WAS GOING ON, SO THAT PASSERS BY SAW ONLY THE SAME ANCIENT RUINS...


..RUINS WHICH ONLY SUCH ADEPTS AS SIR JUSTIN AND I WOULD EVEN HAVE KNOWN WERE THE STONY REMAINS OF ARTHUR'S 5TH CENTURY STRONGHOLD.
YOU--THE SHINING KNIGHT--AND ONE OTHER, WOTAN! DON'T FORGET THAT!
WH--? WHO--?
IT SEEMS WOTAN HAS STILL ANOTHER RELUCTANT GUEST, ROBOTMAN.

HE SURE AS BLAZES DOES!
I HAD A FIRST NAME, YEARS AGO--BUT MOST PEOPLE NEVER KNEW ME AS ANYTHING BUT--
--DOCTOR OCCULT!
WHAT?! YOU DON'T MEAN--THE FAMOUS GHOST DETECTIVE!?

* DR. OCCULT (CREATED BY JERRY SIEGEL AND JOE SHUSTER) APPEARED IN MORE FUN COMICS #6-33, 1935-38... SO IT SEEMED ONLY FITTING HE REAPPEAR DURING DC'S 50th-ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION. --R.T.

... AND THOUGH IT SHIELDED ME FROM WOTAN'S MAGIC, IT DIDN'T DO MUCH AGAINST THE SCIENCE-FICTION ASPECTS OF HIS LITTLE ARSENAL.
IN OTHER WORDS, HIS ROBOTS CLOBBERED ME--AND HE THREW ME IN HERE.
YOU SHOULD HAVE STAYED IN YOUR YANKEE BACKYARD, FOOL. YOU AMERICANS ARE SO NAIVE--YOUR NATION SO YOUNG.
SMALL WONDER YOU CAN NEVER HOPE TO TRIUMPH OVER THE THOUSAND-YEAR REICH--LET ALONE OVER WOTAN.
BUT NOW, IT'S TIME I CONTACTED MY OSTENSIBLE EMPLOYER. I BELIEVE YOU MAY HAVE HEARD OF HIM. HIS NAME IS--
ADOLF HITLER!
SZzzt
VERY GOOD, DR. FATE! IT'S TRULY INSPIRING TO SEE YOU KEEPING UP-TO-DATE ON CURRENT EVENTS. HEIL HITLER!
<YOU GIVE THE NATIONAL-SOCIALIST SALUTE WITH THE WRONG ARM, HERR WOTAN.>
<MY APOLOGIES, MEIN FÜHRER. IN MY EAGERNESS TO REPORT TO YOU, I FORGOT MYSELF.>
<I ASSUMED YOU WOULD WISH TO KNOW AT ONCE THAT THE PREPARATIONS YOU HAVE FINANCED ARE COMPLETE. MY KNIGHT-ROBOTS ARE IN PLACE AND FUNCTIONING-->
<--AND AS AN ADDED BONUS, I HAVE ADDED THREE MORE OF AMERICA'S SO-CALLED ALL-STAR SQUADRON TO MY LIST OF ABJECT CAPTIVES.>
<DO WITH THEM AS YOU WILL. I HAVE ALWAYS SAID THAT THE AMERICAN THREAT TO OUR CAUSE, LIKE THE RUSSIAN, IS VASTLY OVERRATED.>
<MY ARMY MAY HAVE FAILED TO CAPTURE MOSCOW LAST WINTER AS PLANNED--BUT NOW THAT SPRING IS HERE, I WILL BEGIN A NEW OFFENSIVE.>
<OUR AXIS PARTNERS--ITALY, HUNGARY, RUMANIA, AND SLOVAKIA--AS WELL AS 'NEUTRAL' SPAIN--WILL SOON BE ADDING HALF A MILLION MEN TO OUR ARMIES THERE--EASILY ENOUGH TO CRUSH STALIN'S IGNORANT PEASANTS!>
<BUT ENGLAND MUST BE DISCOURAGED FROM OPENING A SECOND FRONT IN EUROPE WHILE WE ARE MOPPING UP THE BOLSHEVIK SCUM.!>
C



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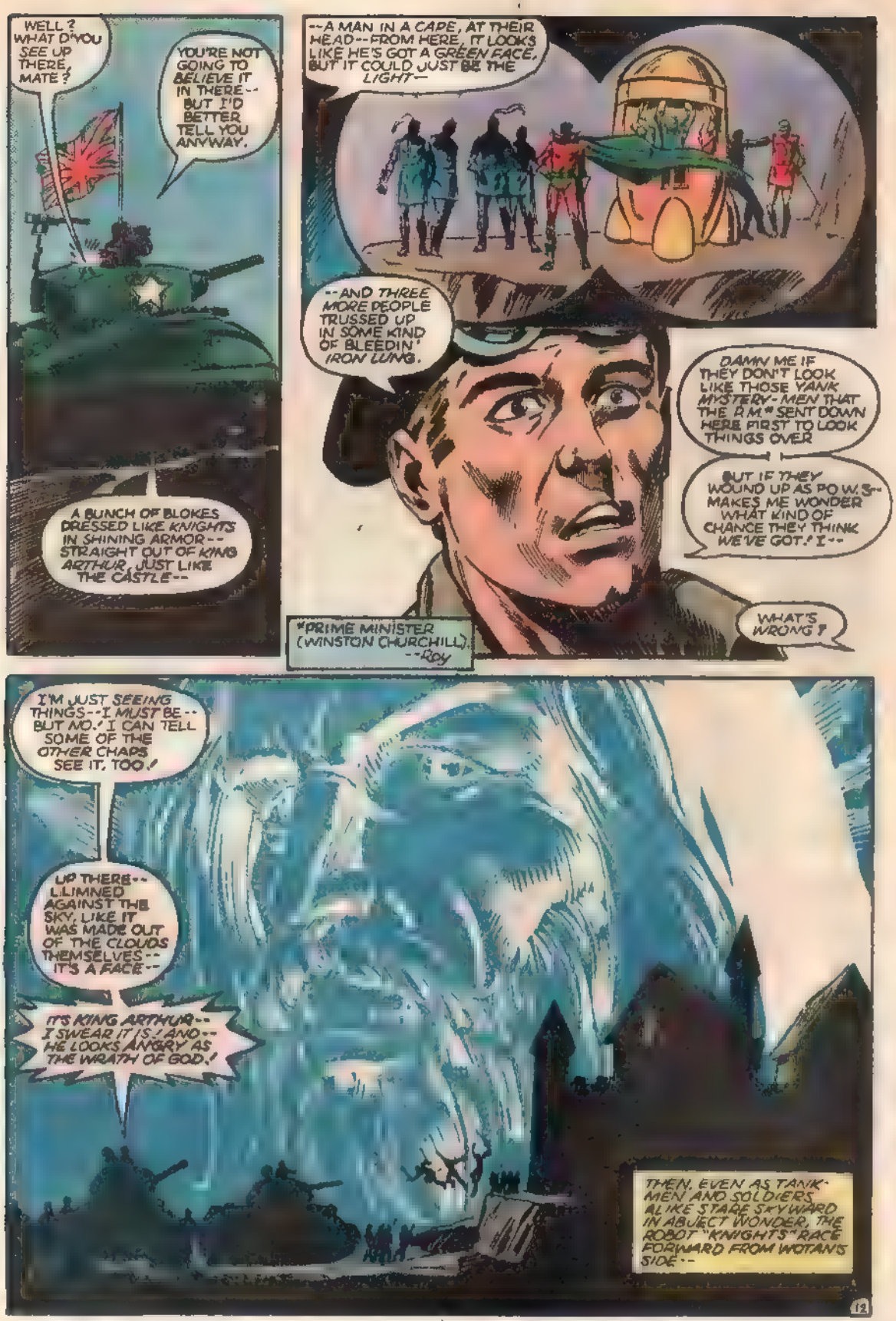
ACH, GUT! (THEN REPORT BACK TO ME, AS SOON AS THE ENGLISH FORCES ARE OBLITERATED!)
(I SHALL, MEIN FÜHRER, SIEG HEIL!)
KLIK!
THANK NYARLATHOTEP! I THOUGHT THAT STRUTTING EGOMANIAC WOULD NEVER LET ME GET BACK TO THE BUSINESS AT HAND, NAMELY--
--CHECKING TO SEE THAT THE BRITISH ARMY HAS MASSED JUST BEYOND THE MOAT AREA, AS INTENDED
GOOD! CHURCHILL AND HIS WAR CABINET HAVE TAKEN THE BAIT, AS I KNEW THEY WOULD!
HITLER IS A FOOL, LIKE ALL THOSE HUMANS WHO HAVE NOT SOLD THEIR SOULS OUTRIGHT TO THE DEVILS WHO MANIPULATE HUMAN EVENTS FOR THEIR OWN BENEFIT.
AND IF SOON, RUSSIA AND THE EAST BELONG TO THE SO-CALLED FASCIST STATES--
--THE BRITISH ISLES WILL BELONG TO WOTAN, [illegible] OF DARKNESS!


WELL? WHAT D'YOU SEE UP THERE, MATE?
YOU'RE NOT GOING TO BELIEVE IT IN THERE-- BUT I'D BETTER TELL YOU ANYWAY.
A BUNCH OF BLOKES DRESSED LIKE KNIGHTS IN SHINING ARMOR-- STRAIGHT OUT OF KING ARTHUR, JUST LIKE THE CASTLE--
--A MAN IN A CAPE, AT THEIR HEAD-- FROM HERE, IT LOOKS LIKE HE'S GOT A GREEN FACE. BUT IT COULD JUST BE THE LIGHT--
--AND THREE MORE PEOPLE TRUSSED UP IN SOME KIND OF BLEEDIN' IRON LUNG.
DAMN ME IF THEY DON'T LOOK LIKE THOSE YANK MYSTERY-MEN THAT THE R.M." SENT DOWN HERE FIRST TO LOOK THINGS OVER
BUT IF THEY WOUND UP AS P.O.W.S-- MAKES ME WONDER WHAT KIND OF CHANCE THEY THINK WE'VE GOT.' I--
WHAT'S WRONG?
"PRIME MINISTER (WINSTON CHURCHILL). --Roy
I'M JUST SEEING THINGS--I MUST BE-- BUT NO.' I CAN TELL SOME OF THE OTHER CHAPS SEE IT, TOO.'
UP THERE-- LILIMNED AGAINST THE SKY, LIKE IT WAS MADE OUT OF THE CLOUDS THEMSELVES-- IT'S A FACE--
IT'S KING ARTHUR-- I SWEAR IT IS.' AND-- HE LOOKS ANGRY AS THE WRATH OF GOD.'
THEN, EVEN AS TANK-MEN AND SOLDIERS ALIKE STARE SKYWARD IN ABJECT WONDER, THE ROBOT "KNIGHTS" RACE FORWARD FROM WOTAN'S SIDE--
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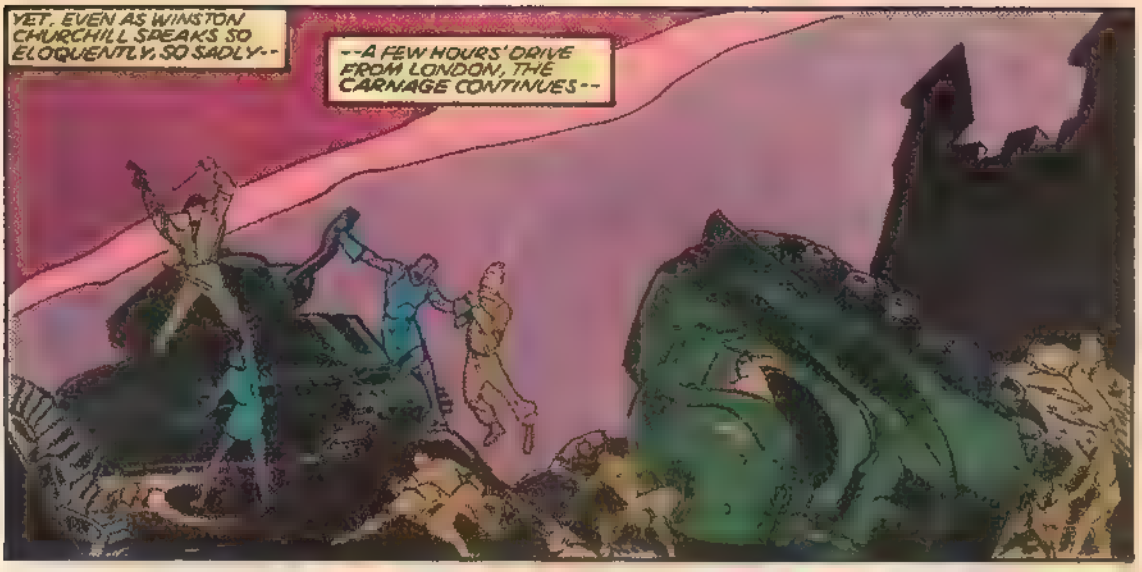
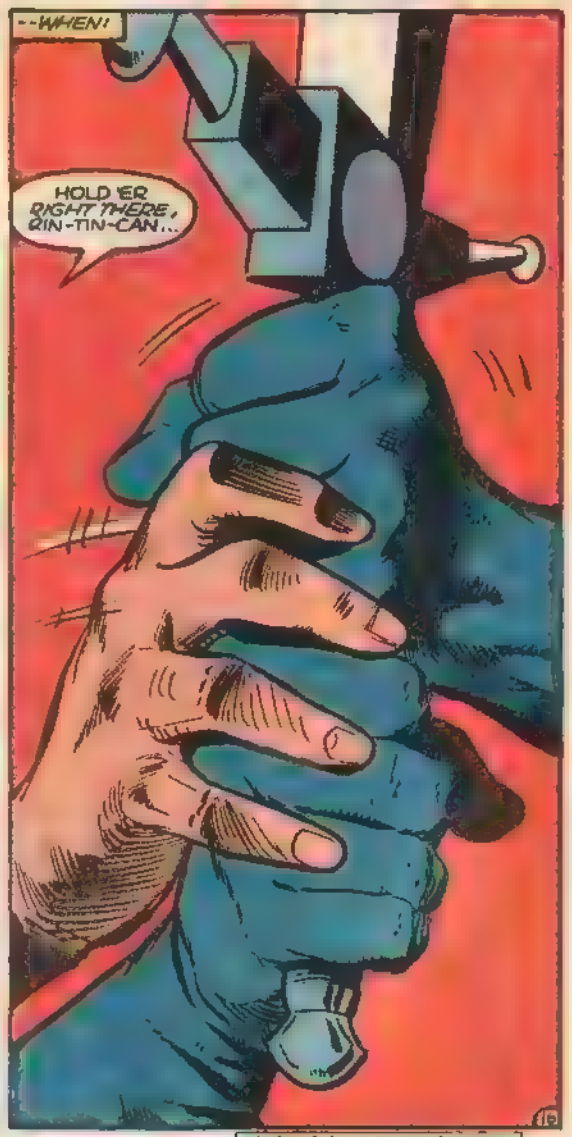
--TO DO THE BIDDING OF THE FIENDISH MAGICIAN-SCIENTIST WHO CREATED THEM!
AND EACH CAPTIVE WATCHER SUFFERS HIS OWN PECULIAR BRAND OF HELL ON EARTH!
IS THIS WHAT I LABORED YEARS TO DEVELOP-- POWERFUL ROBOTS--
--WHO'LL JUST MAKE MANKIND DESPISE THE VERY CONCEPT OF ROBOTS FOR CENTURIES TO COME?
MY OLDEST ENEMY MAY BE ON HIS WAY TO CONQUERING ENGLAND--
--AND I CAN'T DO A DAMNED THING ABOUT IT!
OH, SIR JUSTIN--HOW WILL YOU LIVE WITH THIS MEMORY--IF AND WHEN YOU'RE EVER PERMITTED MEMORY AGAIN?
IF ONLY I HAD MY MYSTIC SYMBOL AGAIN--
--OR IF I COULD GET FREE SO I COULD DIE FIGHTING!
AH, SIR JUSTIN--YOU MUST KNOW HOW PROUD YOU AND YOUR FELLOW KNIGHTS MAKE YOUR SOVEREIGN TODAY.
WHEN ALL BRITAIN IS UNITED UNDER THE THRONE OF CAMELOT ONCE MORE, YOU SHALL SIT AT MY RIGHT HAND, AND DISPENSE JUSTICE WITH A TERRIBLE SWIFT SWORD!
BUT IF ANY SUDDEN DOUBTS RACK THE BRAIN OF THE SHINING KNIGHT AS TO WHETHER OR NOT THE DEATH DEALER AT HIS SIDE IS INDEED HIS FORMER LIEGE--
--THE 'DIE A-BORNING, KILLED BY THE SPELL THAT HOLDS HIM.

THIS IS FORMER NAVAL PERSON. WHAT IN BLAZES IS GOING ON DOWN THERE, SOLDIER?
IT--IT'S UNBELIEVABLE, SIR! IT'S AS IF ALL THE KNIGHTS OF THE ROUND TABLE HAD COME BACK TO LIFE--
--AND WERE FIGHTING FOR THE JERRIES!
WE'RE DOING THE BEST WE CAN, SIR--BUT BULLETS DON'T SEEM TO--
WHAT IS IT, MAN? WHAT'S WRONG??
NEXT MOMENT, LONDON COMMAND IS LITERALLY CUT OFF FROM CONTACT WITH THE FIGHTING FRONT TO THE SOUTH--
AAAAAAA
--AS A HORRIBLE AND MOST UNEQUAL HOLOCAUST RAGES UNABATED.

BLOODY HELL! NOTHING AT ALL COMING OUT OF THE REGION NOW, YOU SAY?
MUST BE A STORM -- PERHAPS SOME OTHER KIND OF INTERFERENCE.
BEGGING YOUR PARDON, SIR, BUT I DON'T THINK YOU REALLY BELIEVE THAT -- ANY MORE THAN THE REST OF US DO.
INCREDIBLE! HIS MAJESTY'S FINEST TROOPS -- OUR TANK CORPS -- THE MIGHTY HEROES OF THE ALL-STAR SQUADRON --
CAN'T ANYONE STOP THE MADNESS THAT'S GOING ON DOWN THERE -- WHATEVER IT MAY BE?
YES, WE -- WE MAY HAVE TO, I FEAR BUT THAT MAY BE JUST WHAT HERR HITLER WANTS, ASSUMING HE'S BEHIND THIS
PERHAPS IF WE TRIED THE R A F BOYS AGAIN, PRIME MINISTER...
IF WE SEND OUR PLANES SOUTH, ALL THE REST OF BRITAIN WILL LIE AT THE MERCY OF NAZI BOMBERS.
BUT -- WHAT OTHER ALTERNATIVE HAVE WE, SIR?
PERHAPS NOT... SAVE ONLY PRAYER.
CALL IT INTUITION, IF YOU WILL -- OR HOPE, OR EVEN FOLLY -- BUT LET'S WAIT A FEW MOMENTS MORE BEFORE SENDING IN THE ROYAL AIR FORCE.
NEARLY TWO YEARS AGO, WE PRAYED FOR A MIRACLE AT DUNKIRK -- AND THE GOOD LORD HEARD US.
PERHAPS HE WILL FAVOR THIS ISLAND NATION A SECOND TIME.
IF NOT -- THEN WE ARE LOST.
13





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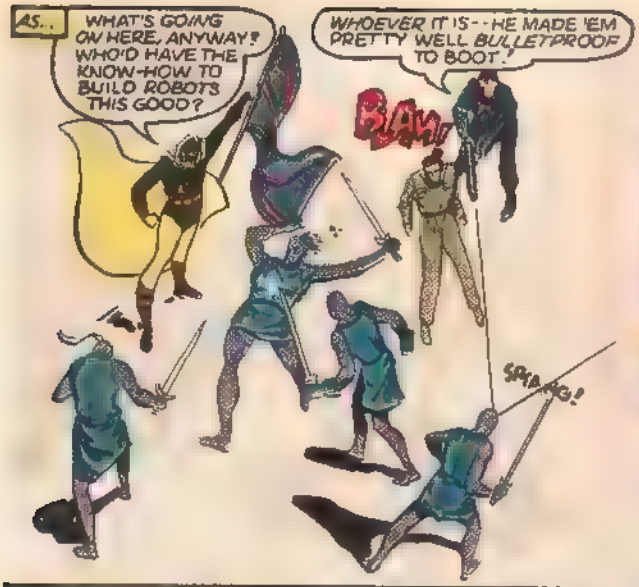
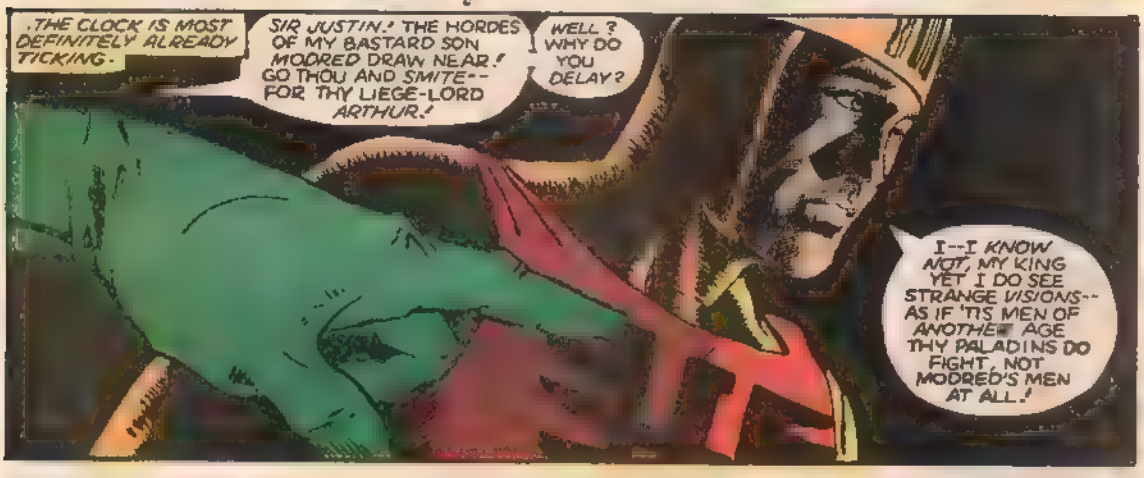
THAT'S A NICE BOY!
THE HELL I SAY! IT'S NO BOY AT ALL, BUT A MECHANICAL MAN--LIKE GERNSBACK BACK IN NEW YORK!
SPLANNG!
SO I CLOBBERED HIM--IT--BUT I DARN NEAR BROKE MY HAND DOING IT!
WELL, THAT GOES WITH BEING A MYSTERY-MAN, I GUESS--
--AT LEAST A LIVE ONE, AS OPPOSED TO THE DEAD ONE I ALMOST WAS.
PERHAPS THE MIDST OF A FRENZIED BATTLE TO DECIDE THE FATE OF WORLD WAR TWO IS NOT THE BEST PLACE TO STOP THE CLOCK AND REVEAL PRECISELY WHY REX TYLER DIDN'T PERISH IN THE EXPLOSION OF BLACKHAWK'S PLANE A SHORT TIME AGO.
ON THE OTHER HAND, IT'S THE ONLY CHANCE WE'RE GONNA HAVE, SO:
47

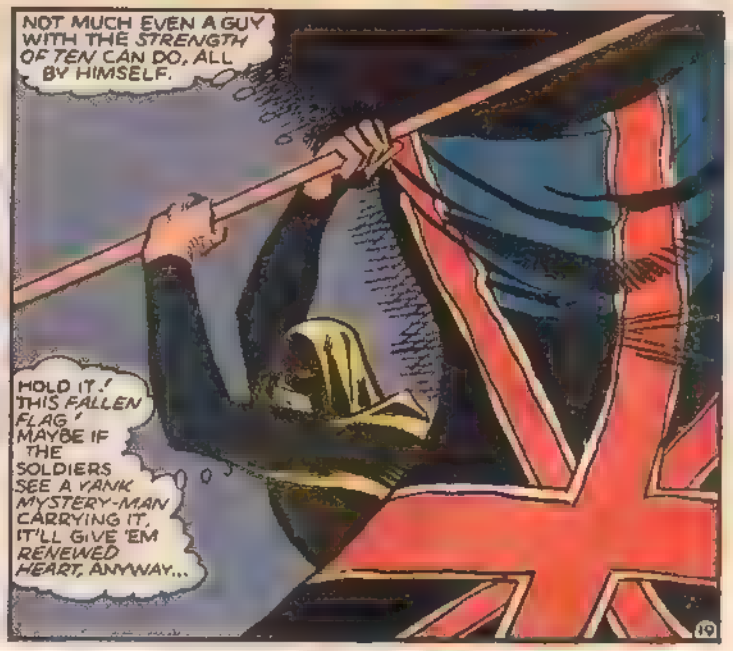
IN THE INSTANTS BEFORE THE WOUNDED GRUMMAN SKYROCKET CRASHED, HOURMAN--HIS PORTABLE MIRACLO MACHINE IMMOBILIZED LIKE THE PLANE'S ENGINE--BIT THE BULLET AND POPPED A MIRACLO PILL.
SIDE EFFECTS BE DAMNED! THIS IS WAR!
SHIELDING BLACKHAWK WITH HIS NOW-STRENGTHENED BODY, REX SURVIVED THE CRASH--AND DRAGGED THE STRICKEN AVIATOR FROM THE BURNING WRECKAGE.
HE'S OKAY--JUST STUNNED! I'LL GET HIM TO SAFETY--
--THEN USE THE REST OF MY "HOUR OF POWER" TO HELP OUT AGAINST THOSE RENEGADE "KNIGHTS"! WE'LL--
POWER-TIME REMAINING
0 57:04
THAT'S JUST ABOUT WHEN WOTAN DECIDED TO TURN HIS MAGICAL-SCIENTIFIC PROWESS AGAINST THE PLANE A SECOND TIME!
KA-WOOM
0 57:03
SOME TIME LATER..
HOURMAN--YOU ALL RIGHT, FELLA?
OH--SURE. NEVER--FELT BETTER. THE OTHER ALL-STARS--ARE THEY--?
KING ARTHUR'S" GOT 'EM HOGTIED IN FRONT OF THE CASTLE--AND HIS KNIGHTS ARE MIXING IT UP WITH THE BRITISH RIGHT NOW.
LISTEN--THANKS FOR CARRYING ME OUT. I'D HAVE BEEN A CORPSE IF YOU HADN'T--
FORGET IT WE'RE ALL IN THIS THING TOGETHER.
GOD, FROM THE SOUND OF THINGS, OUR SIDE COULD USE SOME HELP OVER THERE.
MY PISTOL'S IN WORKING ORDER--SO LET'S GIVE IT TO 'EM!
JUST WISH I KNEW--HOW MUCH I HAD TO GIVE.
USUALLY, I USE MY HOURGLASS TO TELL HOW MUCH POWER-TIME I'VE GOT LEFT--BUT IT FELL OVER WHEN I DID.
DON'T KNOW HOW HOW LONG WE WERE OUT. SO I... MIGHT HAVE NEARLY THE WHOLE HOUR--OR LESS THAN A MINUTE!
SO NOW IT'S TIME TO START THE CLOCK AGAIN--DAMN WE DON'T KNOW WHAT TIME IT IS...
?:?:?


AS...
WHAT'S GOING ON HERE, ANYWAY? WHO'D HAVE THE KNOW-HOW TO BUILD ROBOTS THIS GOOD?
WHOEVER IT IS--HE MADE 'EM PRETTY WELL BULLETPROOF TO BOOT!
BLAM!
SPANG!

WELL, AT LEAST THIS TOMMY SURVIVED TO TELL THE TALE--FOR THE MOMENT, ANYWAY.
BUT HOW LONG CAN THE BUNCH OF US HOLD OUT--AGAINST AN ARMY OF THESE THINGS?
ON THAT SCORE, REX TYLER...


...THE CLOCK IS MOST DEFINITELY ALREADY TICKING...
SIR JUSTIN! THE HORDES OF MY BASTARD SON MODRED DRAW NEAR! GO THOU AND SMITE--FOR THY LIEGE-LORD ARTHUR!
WELL? WHY DO YOU DELAY?
I--I KNOW NOT, MY KING YET I DO SEE STRANGE VISIONS--AS IF 'TIS MEN OF ANOTHER AGE THY PALADINS DO FIGHT, NOT MODRED'S MEN AT ALL!

'TIS THE VILE MAGICKS OF MORGAN LE FEY WHICH SPIN THY HEAD ABOUT...DO YE NOT COMPREHEND THAT?
AYE, AND YET--AND YET--


NOT MUCH EVEN A GUY WITH THE STRENGTH OF TEN CAN DO, ALL BY HIMSELF.
HOLD IT! THIS FALLEN FLAG! MAYBE IF THE SOLDIERS SEE A YANK MYSTERY-MAN CARRYING IT, IT'LL GIVE 'EM RENEWED HEART, ANYWAY...

NEXT MOMENT, SOME DISTANCE AWAY--
ARRRRH
--BUT LIKE SOME OTHER STANDARD I CANNOT QUITE RECALL--A FLAG AS DEAR TO ME AS MINE OWN!
THAT HOISTED PENNANT! I--I REMEMBER IT NOT--YET SOMEHOW, IT DOTH SEEM NOT LIKE UNTO EVIL MODRED'S--
HELP ME, MY LIEGE! TELL ME HOW SUCH A THING CAN BE!
MY SPELL--MY ONLY HOLD UPON HIM--IT'S WEARING OFF!
MORE OF MORGAN'S SORCERY--DON'T YOU SEE THAT, FOOL?
FIGHT BACK, SIR JUSTIN! CLEAR YOUR HEAD--THAT YOU MAY GO FORTH TO LEAD THE KNIGHTS OF THE TABLE ROUND TO VICTORY!
YES, I--I STRIVE MIGHTILY TO FREE MY BRAIN, MILORD--BUT--ALL I SEE--
--ALL I SEE IS NOT KING ARTHUR AT ALL--BUT SOME VARLET OF AN IMPOSTOR--
--WITH FEATURES OF EMERALD HUE!
NO! YOU ARE WRONG, SIR JUSTIN! I AM--
WOTAN! I KNOW YE NOW--FOR THAT WHICH TRULY YE BE!
IN THAT CASE, YOU ARROGANT ARMORED SWINE--YOUR USEFULNESS TO ME IS AT AN END--
--AND THE VERY MAGIC WHICH WON YOU TO MY CAUSE WILL NOW DESTROY YOU!

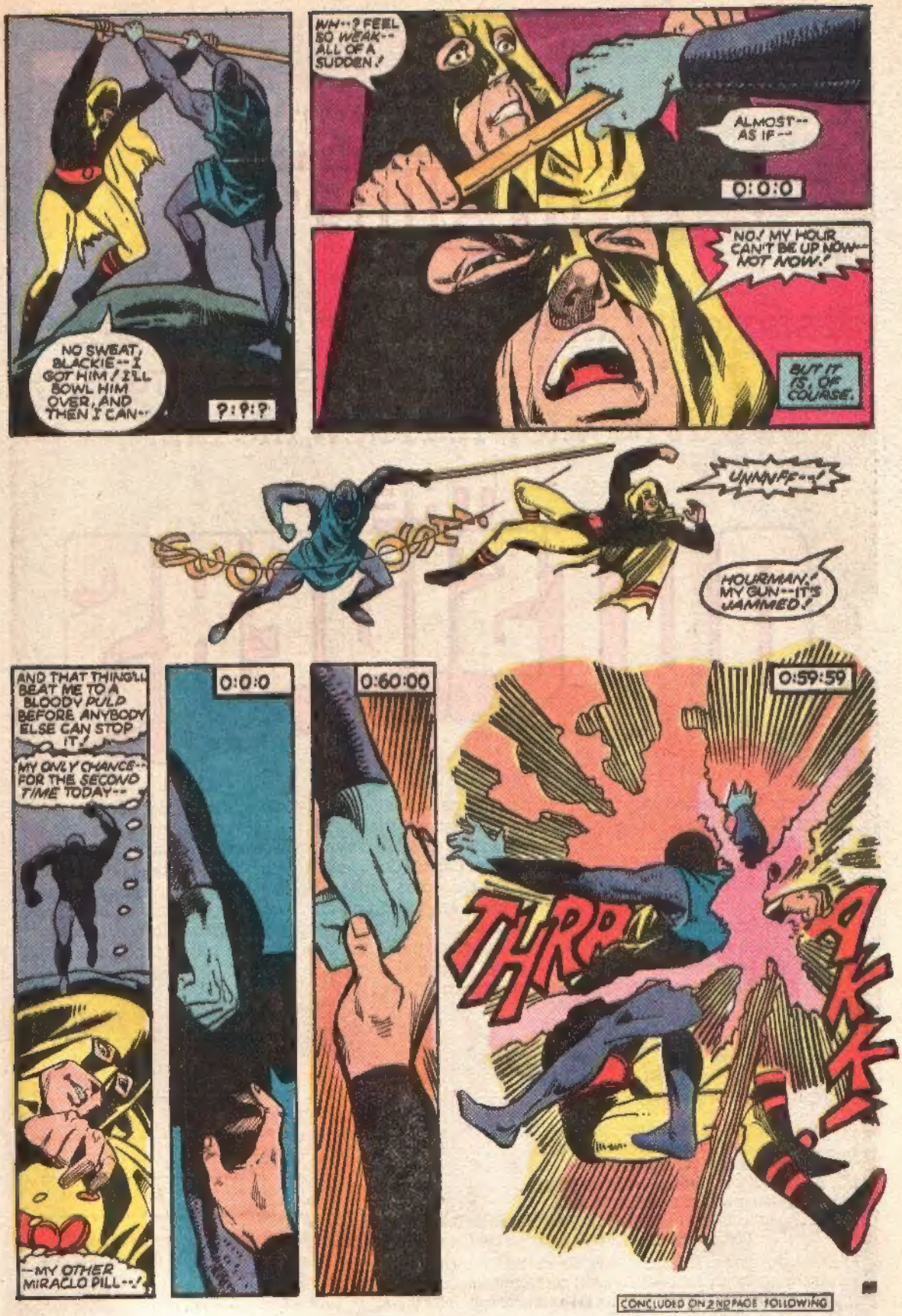
WILL IT INDEED, O MOST BASE OF KNAVES? NOT WHILE MINE INVINCIBLE SWORD DOTH STAND BETWIXT US LIKE A SHIELD--
--THAT SWORD WHICH WAS BLESSED BY THE TRUE MERLIN HIMSELF!

AND NOT WHILST MY GOOD RIGHT ARM STILL FIGHTS FOR KING AND KINGDOM--
--IN ONE AGE FULL AS MUCH AS ANOTHER!
FWAM!

THUS FALL ANY WHO WOULD SEEK TO DESTROY ARTHUR PENDRAGON--OR HIS RIGHTFUL HEIRS!

WITHIN MOMENTS, THE SHINING KNIGHT HAS TURNED HIS BLADE AGAINST THE DEVICES WHICH RESTRAIN HIS FELLOW ALL-STARS, AND...
YE ARE FREE AT LAST, MY FRIENDS--AND I BEG THY FORGIVENESS FOR THE WRONG I HAVE DONE YE--AND ENGLAND.
NOT YOUR FAULT, SIR JUSTIN. FEW MEN COULD HOLD OUT AGAINST THE AGE-OLD MAGICKS WOTAN CAN COMMAND.
MY MAGIC SYMBOL'S FREED THE KNIGHT OF THE LAST VESTIGE OF HIS SPELL.
AND WITH WOTAN DOWN--THE FIVE OF US ALONE CAN MAKE SHORT WORK OF HIS HANDFUL OF ROBOTS.
THEN LET'S GET CRACKING!
WE SURE WILL! BUT LOOK--OVER THERE--

"--HOURMAN AND BLACKHAWK ARE SURE DOING THEIR SHARE!"
AIM FOR THEIR MIDDLES, BUDDY! THAT SEEMS TO BE THEIR VITAL SPOT.
SPLONG!
HEY--YOU'RE RIGHT! BUT LOOK OUT FOR THE ONE ON YOUR RIGHT!
KRAAK!


NO SWEAT, BLACKIE--I GOT HIM! I'LL BOWL HIM OVER, AND THEN I CAN--
?!?!?
WH--? FEEL SO WEAK--ALL OF A SUDDEN!
ALMOST--AS IF--
0:0:0
NO! MY HOUR CAN'T BE UP NOW--NOT NOW!
BUT IT IS, OF COURSE.
UNNNFF--!
HOURMAN! MY GUN--IT'S JAMMED!
AND THAT THING'LL BEAT ME TO A BLOODY PULP BEFORE ANYBODY ELSE CAN STOP IT!
MY ONLY CHANCE--FOR THE SECOND TIME TODAY--
--MY OTHER MIRACLO PILL--!
0:0:0
0:60:00
0:59:59
THRR
AKK!
CONCLUDED ON 2ND PAGE FOLLOWING

SCRATCH ONE TIN MAN, AND IT LOOKS LIKE FATE AND THE GANG ARE MOPPING UP THE REST.
GOOD THING, TOO... 'CAUSE THE WAY MY PULSE IS RACING LIKE A TRIPHAMMER...
...I MIGHT JUST BE HAVING... A HEART ATTACK.
IN FACT... I'D DAMN NEAR BET ON--
HOURMAN!
PLOP!
DR. FATE-- IS HE --?
HE'S ALIVE-- JUST BARELY! BUT HE WON'T BE, MUCH LONGER--
--UNLESS I GET HIM TO A HOSPITAL --FAST!
WH-WHAT DO YOU THINK, BRANDY? BLACKHAWK? IS HE GONNA MAKE IT?
A LOT OF BRAVE MEN DIED HERE TODAY, ROBOTMAN-- TO KEEP THIS COUNTRY FREE OF INVASION FOR ANOTHER THOUSAND YEARS.
I JUST PRAY THAT ONE OF THEM WASN'T A BRAVE JOE CALLED HOURMAN!
AMEN..
AND SOMEWHERE, PERHAPS, THE OTHER MEMBERS OF THE ALL-STAR SQUADRON ARE DOING THE SAME....!
NEXT ISSUE: AMID LIFE AND DEATH--
OUR EXTRA-SIZE 50th-ISSUE SPECIAL-- featuring THE COMING OF HARBINGER! (EARTH-TWO WILL NEVER BE THE SAME AGAIN!)